

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

CLASS \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

for **CHAPTER 15: PUNCTUATION II** page 333

## Apostrophes D

- 15s.** Use an apostrophe to show where letters, words, or numerals have been omitted (left out) in a contraction.

The word *not* can be shortened to *n't* and added to a verb, usually without any change in the spelling of the verb.

**EXAMPLES** I am—I'm      of the clock—o'clock  
1998—'98      do not—don't      she would—she'd

**EXERCISE A** On the lines provided, write the contraction for each set of words.

**Example 1.** should not shouldn't

- |                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. where is _____  | 6. could not _____  |
| 2. we are _____    | 7. you will _____   |
| 3. they will _____ | 8. does not _____   |
| 4. has not _____   | 9. might have _____ |
| 5. she is _____    | 10. they are _____  |

**EXERCISE B** The following sentences have errors in the use of apostrophes in contractions. An apostrophe may be missing or in the wrong place. Underline each error. Then, above the error, write the contraction correctly.

**Example 1.** Theyv'e been reading quietly in their room.

- Theres a hobby you may find interesting.
- Its' called in-line skating.
- Why have'nt I heard about it?
- Here is a magazine article from October 99'.
- You'll have to finish reading it this afternoon.
- I promised to meet Jessie tomorrow morning at eight oclock and lend it to her.
- Lets all go in-line skating this weekend!
- I know we do'nt have skates yet.
- Ben and Phoebe said theyre not using theirs and will lend them to us.
- I think well find in-line skating difficult but fun.